

Giants Now Gued to Second Place

Superbas, with Puffer in Box, Spoil Welcome to Homecomers.

RAIN OF HITS BRINGS WOE TO MR. O'TOOLE

Wheat Builds Up Commanding Lead for His Team by Making Timely Triple.

By HEYWOOD BROWN.

Second place threatens to become chronic with the Giants. The welcome to the homecoming men at the Polo Grounds yesterday was not a success, for the Superbas crossed the river and spoiled the afternoon by defeating the Giants at 3 to 2. While the Giants were losing the Braves split even with the Phillies and thereby gained half a game. The Boston team now tops the National League by a game and a half, while the Giants are a half game behind the Phillies.

Marty O'Toole made his first home appearance as a Giant pitcher, but was very much worried in the duel with Ed Pfeffer, the Brooklyn whizwind. Marty was banished from Pittsburgh because of his lack of control, but he could not fool O'Toole.

Every time he saw a piece of wood he hit it, and it made no difference to him whether the bat was swinging or the wing. Not only did he pitch with accuracy, but he threw so swiftly that the ball bounded off the Brooklyn bats for corners of the field. Marty seems to be almost as expert a bat hitter as Arthur Fommo, but the sun-ports of the latter assert that Arthur ran hit smaller bats.

O'Toole remained for nine innings and yielded fourteen hits. He was hammered hard from beginning to end, Brooklyn driving three runs home in the final inning just to make certain of the contest. Pfeffer has beaten the Giants three times this season, but on the last occasion when he faced McGraw's men he was driven from the box by a furious fusillade in the early innings. Yesterday he yielded only six hits. One of these was a home run drive by Merkle. It was a long, solid smash into the left field bleachers and marked, perhaps, a turning point in the extended slump which has pinioned the first baseman.

McGraw sprang a surprise by abandoning the shift which he made in the last game against the Braves and putting Merkle back first, with Snodgrass in center field.

Davey Robertson, who seemed destined for a stay on the bench, also broke into the line-up in place of Jack Murray. Davey made one of his best hits of the season, a double in the fourth inning, which was a home run.

There were neither hits nor runs in the first three innings, but the ball, hard driven by the Superbas, flew past his head so often that he must have thought at times of the Boston pop barge.

The ranks of the Superbas have been so depleted by injuries and one thing and another that Wilbert Robinson was compelled to ask Dick Ellerbe, the grand old man of the game, to put out and play shortstop. Ellerbe made one hit and a characteristic fumble. The most active man in the Brooklyn ranks was Zach Wheat, whose timely triple in the third inning, which was a home run, being up to a tap up the third base line, which sent Pfeffer roaring. Stengel bounced a hit over O'Toole's head, and Pfeffer scored, while Daubert went to second. Wheat cleared the bases with a triple to the center field fence. Cutshaw rapped cleanly to right, and Wheat scored.

It was not until the fifth inning that the Giants made a run, and that was due to the radical action of Merkle, who drove the ball into the left field bleachers. Brooklyn proceeded to take reprisals in the sixth, when the team scored two runs in return for the one of the Giants. Grant played Getz's tap badly, but it was scored as a single. The third baseman also was at fault on the next change, a grounder from Ellerbe, but Pfeffer showed himself a true pitcher this time, and struck out. Dalton, however, brought down runners home with a single to left.

A single and a steal by Burns and Davey Robertson in the sixth gave New York its second run of the game in the latter half of the sixth, and in the seventh another Giant crossed the plate. A will-they-or-no-they play, which gave O'Toole two bases, and a double by Snodgrass, were the factors here.

In the ninth Dalton, Daubert, Cutshaw, Getz and Ellerbe all hit safely, and three runs were scored for Brooklyn. The Giants may take the lead of the National League back to-day, for they play two games with Brooklyn, while the Braves are meeting the Phillies twice.

1 BROOKLYN N. Y. ALPHABET

Talton, 4; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 10; 11; 12; 13; 14; 15; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 23; 24; 25; 26; 27; 28; 29; 30; 31; 32; 33; 34; 35; 36; 37; 38; 39; 40; 41; 42; 43; 44; 45; 46; 47; 48; 49; 50; 51; 52; 53; 54; 55; 56; 57; 58; 59; 60; 61; 62; 63; 64; 65; 66; 67; 68; 69; 70; 71; 72; 73; 74; 75; 76; 77; 78; 79; 80; 81; 82; 83; 84; 85; 86; 87; 88; 89; 90; 91; 92; 93; 94; 95; 96; 97; 98; 99; 100; 101; 102; 103; 104; 105; 106; 107; 108; 109; 110; 111; 112; 113; 114; 115; 116; 117; 118; 119; 120; 121; 122; 123; 124; 125; 126; 127; 128; 129; 130; 131; 132; 133; 134; 135; 136; 137; 138; 139; 140; 141; 142; 143; 144; 145; 146; 147; 148; 149; 150; 151; 152; 153; 154; 155; 156; 157; 158; 159; 160; 161; 162; 163; 164; 165; 166; 167; 168; 169; 170; 171; 172; 173; 174; 175; 176; 177; 178; 179; 180; 181; 182; 183; 184; 185; 186; 187; 188; 189; 190; 191; 192; 193; 194; 195; 196; 197; 198; 199; 200; 201; 202; 203; 204; 205; 206; 207; 208; 209; 210; 211; 212; 213; 214; 215; 216; 217; 218; 219; 220; 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